

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0494

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: OCTOBER 23 PLENARY SESSION

1. AT THE EIGHTY-FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, CANADIAN REP GRANDE DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. IT CONCERNED STABILIZING MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE WEST. THE MAIN POINTS OF GRANDE'S PRESENTATION WERE:

A. EASTERN AND WESTERN LEADERS AT HELSINKI EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT PROGRESS AT VIENNA WOULD FOLLOW THE CONCLUSION OF CSCE.

B. AGREEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES, AS PROPOSED BY THE WEST, WOULD CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AIMS OF THE VIENNA TALKS.

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C. CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES (CBM'S) AGREED AT HELSINKI DEMONSTRATE COMMON RECOGNITION THAT MIS-

UNDERSTANDING OF MILITARY ACTIVITIES CAN GIVE RISE TO APPREHENSION.

D. AS THE TWO SUPERPOWERS ARE EACH THE KEY MILITARY ELEMENT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE ALLIANCES, THE STABILIZING MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE WEST CONCENTRATE ON POST-PHASE I MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF THE REMAINING US AND USSR GROUND FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS.

E. WITHOUT UNDULY INTERFERING WITH LEGITIMATE MILITARY PRACTICES AND ACTIVITIES, WESTERN PROPOSALS WOULD REDUCE THE RISK OF THEIR BEING MISUNDERSTOOD.

F. CANADIAN REP SUMMARIZED THE STABILIZING MEASURES PROPOSED THUS FAR BY THE WEST.

G. FOLLOWING HELSINKI, WESTERN PARTICIPANTS BELIEVED THE TIME PROPITIOUS FOR PARTICIPANTS TO ENTER A SERIOUS DIALOGUE ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES IN GENERAL AND STABILIZING MEASURES IN PARTICULAR WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON THIS IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE AGREED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. FULL TEXT OF CANADIAN STATEMENT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.DEAN

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